

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS19987

This bill would correct §20-524 to clarify that the parents of juvenile offenders in IDJC custody are still financially responsible for those juveniles who are past age 18. The JCA allows juvenile offenders to remain in the custody of the department until age 21, however, this statute does not clearly state that parents of juveniles over age 18 must continue to pay for that juvenile's treatment and rehabilitation. Once a juvenile reaches age 18, even if they are still in the custody of the department, parents have argued that they are no longer responsible for these ongoing costs. This question has come up in magistrate court and it became apparent that the statute needs some clarification if the parents of the offender are to be held financially responsible past the juvenile's 18th birthday. The department also proposes making some housekeeping changes in this section of the act, removing references to "child support" and parts of the section that do not pertain to IDJC.

FISCAL NOTE

There is a potential positive fiscal impact to the agency if additional funds are collected.

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